

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Initially, applicants note that on June 9, 2004, an Information Disclosure Statement/Related/List of Related Cases (IDS) was filed including several documents listed on four forms PTO-1449. At this time applicants have not received confirmation of consideration of those references. Applicants respectfully request that four initialed forms PTO-1449 be returned indicating confirmation of consideration of the references filed in that IDS.

Claims 1-53 are pending in this application. Claims 1-53 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over claims 1-53 of U.S. patent number 6,744,545.

Addressing the above-noted obviousness-type double patenting rejection, that rejection is obviated by the present response. More particularly, filed with the present response is a Terminal Disclaimer over U.S. patent 6,744,545. The submission of the Terminal Disclaimer is believed to obviate the outstanding obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,


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